

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GEORGE 01218 081836Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
 SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 DLOS-09 OES-07 EB-07 TRSE-00
 /095 W

-----090229Z 119089 /70

R 081800Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4768
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1218

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: GY
SUBJECT: GUYANA FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH
 SOVIETS

REF: GEORGETOWN 1217 (NOTAL)

1. DURING OUR MEETING IN HIS OFFICE JUNE 4, I ASKED
WILLS CONCERNING THE STATUS OF THE SOVIET FISHING
AGREEMENT. WILLS SAID NOTHING HAD HAPPENED SINCE
THE TWO SOVIET NEGOTIATORS HAD LEFT GUYANA. THE
SO-CALLED AGREEMENT WAS MERELY A LICENSE TO KEEP ON
TALKING. GUYANA WOULD ACCEPT NO AGREEMENT, WILLS
SAID, UNLESS THE RUSSIANS AGREED TO AN OVERALL AID
PACKAGE.

2. WILLS SAID THE SOVIETS REMAINED VERY ACTIVE. HE
HAD RECEIVED SEVERAL REPRESENTATIONS FROM AMBASSADOR
KOTENEV CONCERNING A CONVENTION ON NON-USE OF FORCE
IN SOLVING PROBLEMS IN THE SOLUTION OF INTERNATIONAL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GEORGE 01218 081836Z

PROBLEMS. FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO HAD ALSO WRITTEN
A LETTER AKSING GUYANA'S SUPPORT OF THE CONVENTION. WILLS SAID
THE AGREEMENT WAS IN EFFECT A SMOKESCREEN BEHIND WHICH
THE SOVIETS COULD ARM PROXY COUNTRIES OR GROUPS AND HAVE
OTHERS DO THEIR FIGHTING FOR THEM. WILLS SAID
HE DID NOT INTEND TO GIVE ANY DEFINITE ANSWERS TO
THE SOVIETS. HE TOLD THEM THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO

GET CABINET APPROVAL AND PARTY EXECUTIVE APPROVAL BEFORE ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN. HE IMPLIED THAT HE WOULD NOT MOVE ON THIS.

3. THE RUSSIANS WERE PUSHING FOR BURNHAM TO TRAVEL TO THE SOVIET UNION IN SEPTEMBER. AGAIN THE GUYANESE HAD NOT GIVEN AN ANSWER. AS PART OF THE BAIT, THE SOVIETS HAD TOLD WILLS LAST WEEK THAT THEY BELIEVED THAT GUYANA COULD BECOME ASSOCIATED WITH CEMA IF IT NOW DESIRED TO DO SO. WILLS THEN COMMENTED TO ME THAT HOYTE'S ANNOUNCEMENT IN CUBA CONCERNING CEMA LAST JANUARY HAD BEEN A MISTAKE. THE ONLY GOOD THAT HAD COME OF IT WAS THAT EVEN SOME OF THE RADICALS NOW UNDERSTOOD THAT THE SOVIET UNION WOULD NOT PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL ASSISTANCE TO GUYANA.

4. WITH TONGUE IN CHEEK I ASKED WILLS WHY, IF EVERYONE UNDERSTOOD THE NATURE OF THE SOVIET'S INTENTIONS, DID GOG-USSR RELATIONS CONTINUE TO APPEAR POSITIVE. WHY DID NOT THE GOG INDICATE CLEARLY THAT IT HAD NO INTENTION OF JOINING CEMA? WILLS REPLIED THAT I SHOULD NOT FORGET THAT THE ETHNIC MAJORITY OF GUYANA WAS LED BY CHEDDI JAGAN, WHO HAD STRONG TIES TO THE SOVIET UNION AND COULD NOT BE IGNORED. SECONDLY, NO ONE COULD ABSOLUTELY CONCLUDE THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD NOT COME THROUGH WITH ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE IN RETURN FOR A FISHING AGREEMENT. IF THE GOG APPEARED TO BE DELIBERATELY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GEORGE 01218 081836Z

ALLOWING ITS RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS TO DETERMINE WITHOUT HAVE A GOOD REASON FOR DOING SO, THE RADICALS IN THE RULING PARTY AS WELL AS THE OPPOSITION WOULD ARGUE THAT THE CONSERVATIVES IN THE GOG HAD SABOTAGED THE RELATIONSHIP.

5. COMMENT: THERE ARE SIGNS BEYOND WILLS' WORDS, THAT THE GOG-USSR RELATIONSHIP IS NOT PROGRESSING WELL, BUT WE SHOULD NOT MAKE FIRM CONCLUSIONS ABOUT THIS YET. THE GUYANESE COULD SIMPLY BE ATTEMPTING TO APPLY PRESSURE ON THE SOVIETS AND VICE VERSA.

BLACKEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, FISHING AGREEMENTS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GEORGE01218
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770205-0274
Format: TEL
From: GEORGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770675/aaaacofh.tel
Line Count: 110
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 293f1782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 GEORGETOWN 1217
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2220629
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GUYANA FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH SOVIETS
TAGS: EFIS, PDIP, GY, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/293f1782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009